



# Increase Paper Recovery for Recycling

## GOAL: Exceed 70 percent rate of paper recovery for recycling by 2020

### Recovering paper for recycling ...

#### ... helps the environment.

- Recovering valuable resources extends the fiber supply, allowing our industry to reuse paper products to make new ones.
- In addition, paper recovery saves landfill space – an average of 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space is saved for each ton of paper recycled.

#### ... is important to the U.S. economy.

- Recovered paper that was sorted and processed in the U.S. had a 2015 market value of \$7.8 billion. The value of U.S. recovered paper exports totaled \$3.1 billion in 2015.
- Paper recovery has fostered a dynamic marketplace that allows recovered fiber to find its highest-value end use. That, in turn, helps to encourage more recycling.

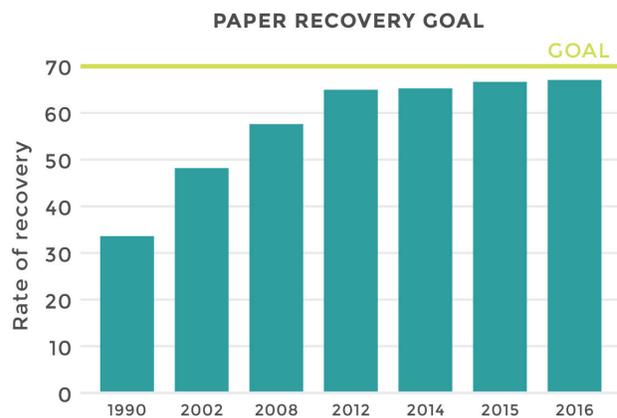
#### ... is a collective effort.

- The paper recovery success is possible thanks to the millions of Americans who continue to recycle at home, work and school every day.
- In 2014, 96 percent of the U.S. population had access to community curbside and/or drop-off paper recycling programs.

### Our industry makes possible a consistently high recovery rate.

- In 2016, 67.2 percent of all paper consumed in the U.S. was recovered for recycling, and the recovery rate has met or exceeded 63 percent for the past eight years.

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency data for 2014 shows that more paper and paperboard is recovered for recycling from municipal solid waste streams than plastics, aluminum, steel and glass combined.



### AF&PA leads a variety of efforts to encourage and increase paper recovery for recycling.

- We create materials to educate consumers about the kinds of paper and paper-based packaging that are recyclable and to encourage people to place paper products that are clean and dry in their recycling bins.
- Our support for The Recycling Partnership helps to create public-private partnerships that will drive sustainable increases in the amount of recyclable commodities recovered across the U.S.

For more information about our paper recovery for recycling goal, visit:

<http://sustainability.afandpa.org>.

